

## MACOMB COUNTY 4-H COUNTY AWARDS OVERVIEW



### THERE ARE Four TYPES OF AWARDS:

#### A. PROJECT AWARDS

Eligibility – Any member between 4-H ages 1-14 (Junior) and 15-19 (Senior).

Nominees should have completed at least two (2) years in the project area (this year plus one previous year, they do not have to be consecutive years), should have done an outstanding job in their project area this year and should have grown personally as a result of the effort put into their project.

#### B. SPECIAL AWARDS GIVEN AT THE COUNTY AND STATE LEVELS:

##### **Leadership, Citizenship, Achievement.**

Eligibility – Any member, 4-H Age 15-19, who meets the criteria listed below.

**Achievement Award:** This award recognizes project accomplishments, leadership skills and outstanding character. Applicants should demonstrate a broad knowledge of 4-H projects and participation in a wide range of 4-H activities at the club, county, state and national level. They should also demonstrate personal growth in setting goals, making decisions, accepting responsibility, and other traits that establish the basis for a highly productive life. Applications should cite several examples that illustrate the above traits in a variety of settings, over a period of years.

**Citizenship Award:** This award recognizes involvement in community action and the acquisition of skills essential to being an effective citizen in a democracy. Applicants should demonstrate their knowledge of democratic principles, their respect for and responsiveness to the needs and rights of others, and their ability to participate effectively in the democratic process at the local, state, national, or global level. Applications should cite several examples that illustrate the above traits in a variety of settings, over a period of years.

**Leadership Award:** This award recognizes activities that have strength-ened a 4-H club and/or the 4-H program. Applicants should demonstrate how their leadership has improved current programming, encouraged development and implementation of new programming, recruited new members and adult volunteers and encouraged others to also assume positions of leadership at the club and county level. Nominations should cite several examples that illustrate an outstanding contribution on the part of the nominee in a variety of settings, over a period of years.

**Club Community Service Award:** This award recognizes a club's members and leaders for outstanding effort to improve their community and increase community awareness of 4-H. Applicants should describe what club members and leaders learned as they worked together towards a common goal. (If you apply for this award you may also wish to consider applying for the 4-H YEA Community Service Recognition which is designed to recognize 4-H members and groups that are working together to be a part of the "solutions" in their communities. The community service must primarily benefit people who are outside of 4-H. All participants must be registered 4-H members or volunteers. Forms are available on the 4-H website in October and due in January to the 4-H office.)

#### **C. SPECIAL AWARDS GIVEN AT THE COUNTY LEVEL ONLY:**

**Individual Community Service Award, Key Club Award, Clear the Hurdle Award, and Sportsmanship Award**

Eligibility – Any member 4-H age 15-19 who meets the criteria below.

**Individual Community Service Award:** is designed to recognize current Ambassador Club members who have attended a minimum of 50% of the club's meetings and 50% of the club's community service activities. Applicants should be "third year members" of the club, although the membership years do not have to be consecutive.

**Key Club Award:** This award is intended to be the top county 4-H honor. Nominees should have completed three years in the 4-H program (be currently in their fourth year), participated in at least two project areas, completed a teen leadership project and have participated in 3 county and/or state 4-H events, and be recommended by their leader.

**Sportsmanship Award:** This award recognizes individuals who are fair-minded, generous, and considerate in competitive situations and have been helpful to other county 4-H members and volunteers in club and county-wide activities. In particular they should be individuals who have been positive role models for younger 4-Hers. Nominations should cite several examples that illustrate outstanding behavior on the part of the nominee in a variety of settings, over a period of years. **Must be nominated by a leader.**

**Clear the Hurdle Award:** This award recognizes individuals whose triumph over unusual or difficult circumstances and has demonstrated their dedication to their 4-H club and activities **Must be nominated by a leader.**

#### **D. ADULT AWARDS**

##### **4-H Volunteer of the Month**

This award recognizes volunteers who have made an outstanding contribution to a club or countywide activity. Volunteers are eligible to receive this award once a year. Nominees will be recognized in the first edition of the Family Notes after their nomination was received. All recipients for the year will also be recognized annually at the County Awards Banquet.

### **4-H Leader of the Year**

Any adult volunteer is eligible for this award. Nominees must have five years or more as a leader. Nominees should have also served on a countywide committee, as a Fair superintendent or assistant, and/or participated in Exploration Days or Kettunen Center training. Individuals are eligible once every five years.

### **Friend of 4-H**

The Friend of 4-H Award recognizes individuals and organizations who are not 4-H members, but who have demonstrated a commitment to 4-H by making contributions to a club or the county 4-H program on a recurring basis. This contribution may consist of use of facilities, donation of materials or services or direct financial support. Recipients for the year will be recognized annually at the County Awards Banquet.

## **WHO MAKES NOMINATIONS**

General Leaders and Project Leaders review membership and make nominations as appropriate. Members also may request nomination.

## **HOW TO NOMINATE**

- Consider whether member is being nominated for project awards, special awards or both.
- Youth can be nominated in several project areas but will be selected in no more than two (2) areas.
- Youth should not be nominated in areas where they have received awards previously.
- The date by which nominations are due to the county office will be determined annually in September.

## **SELECTION PROCEDURE**

The 4-H Awards Committee will meet to make award selections in early November. All nominees will be invited to attend an Award Recognition Program in January. Selected members will receive awards at that time.

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